



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局

Education Bureau

Government Secretariat, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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24 February 2012

Clerk to Bills Committee
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Amy YU)

Dear Ms Yu,

**Bills Committee on
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Amendment) Bill 2011
Follow-up to Meeting on 2 February 2012**

I refer to paragraph 2 of your letter of 6 February 2012.

At the captioned meeting on 2 February 2012, Members requested the Administration to provide information on whether appointments of members to the Council of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University under section 10(1)(d) of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Ordinance made in the past were in compliance with the six-board rule and six-year rule and whether there had been any exceptions.

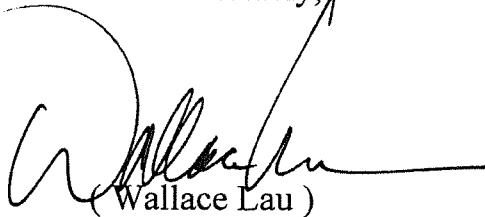
When considering appointments to the Council of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), we uphold the principle of appointment by merit. Each appointment is made on the basis of the merit of the individual concerned, taking into account the candidate's ability, expertise, experience, integrity and commitment to public services. Meanwhile, to ensure a healthy

turnover of members and a manageable workload for appointed members, we are vigilant in observing the six-board rule and six-year rule. Any exception is only allowed in special circumstances and with full justifications.

Since the incumbent Chief Executive assumed his first term of office on 25 June 2005, a total of 38 appointments/re-appointments were made to the Council of PolyU. The six-board rule was adhered to on all these appointments/re-appointments. Meanwhile, the Administration also complied with the six-year rule on all but two occasions, when we took heed of the University's advice to re-appoint two incumbent members for a seventh year respectively in 2008 and 2009 as an exceptional arrangement, in order to ensure continuity of the work of the Council amidst the transition of the presidency of PolyU.

We shall continue to vigorously enforce the two rules when making future appointments, having regard to the principle of appointment by merit.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Wallace Lau', written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

(Wallace Lau)
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Secretary General, University Grants Committee (Attn: Mrs. Dorothy Ma)
President, Hong Kong Polytechnic University